

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): An electrical deionization apparatus comprising: deionization compartments, concentration compartments and electrode compartments partitioned from one another by a plurality of anion- and cation- exchange membranes between a cathode and an anode, wherein, in a deionization compartment, one or more sheets of anion exchange fibrous materials and one or more sheets of cation exchange fibrous materials are alternately laminated on one another in a direction intersecting a water-passing direction from a water inlet to a treated water outlet of the deionization compartments such that opposite ends of each of the sheets of the anion exchange fibrous material and the sheets of the cation exchange fibrous material come into contact with both of an anion exchange membrane and a cation exchange membrane forming the deionization compartment, and at least one of the sheets of anion exchange fibrous material and the sheets of cation exchange fibrous material is a material obtained by introducing ion exchange groups onto a substrate using radiation-induced graft polymerization.

Claims 16-17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): An electrical deionization apparatus, comprising:

deionization compartments, concentration compartments and electrode compartments partitioned from one another by a plurality of anion- and cation- exchange membranes between a cathode and an anode,

wherein, in a deionization compartment, one or more sheets of anion exchange fibrous materials and one or more sheets of cation exchange fibrous materials are alternately laminated on one another in a direction intersecting a water-passing direction from a water inlet to a treated water outlet of the deionization compartment such that opposite ends of each of the sheets of the anion exchange fibrous materials and the sheets of the cation exchange fibrous material come into contact with both of a sheet of anion exchange fibrous material and a sheet of cation exchange fibrous material which are respectively disposed in parallel with the surface of the anion exchange membrane and the surface of the cation exchange membrane forming the deionization compartment.

Claims 19-27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The electrical deionization apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein at least one of the sheets of anion exchange fibrous material and the sheets of cation exchange fibrous material is a material obtained by introducing ion exchange groups onto a substrate using radiation-induced graft polymerization.

Claim 29 (New): The electrical deionization apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the substrate is made of polymeric fibers of single fibers of a polyolefin-type polymer or composite fibers having different polymers.